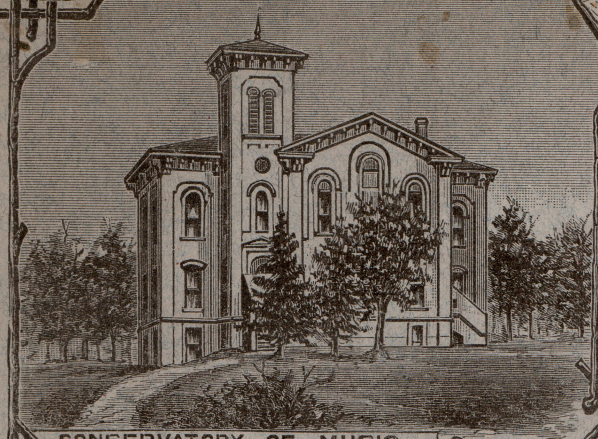

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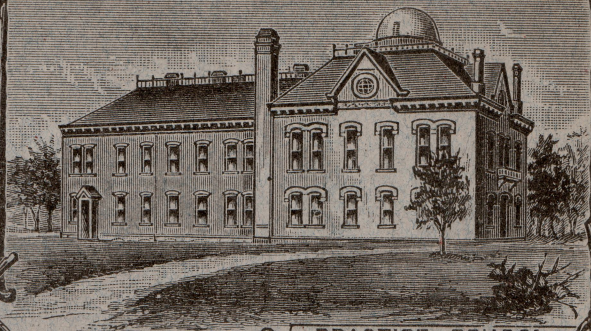

PRACTICE SCHOOL.

THE NORMAL NEWS

JANUARY, 1884.

CHICAGO ENGRAVING CO.

MICHIGAN STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.

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THE NORMAL NEWS.

VOL. 3. YPSILANTI, MICH., JANUARY, 1884. NO. 5.

LIFE.

THOS. DOOLING, '83.

Life is like a mighty river,
Rushing, roaring, sweeping on,
Lashed by storm or gentle zephyr,
Till its course on earth is run.

Here a whirlpool, there an eddy,
Tell the doings of our life;
While the waves of wild commotion
Mark the tempest and the strife.

And the chips that float down slowly
Are like deeds that mortals do:
They may hide beneath the bushes,
Yet they'll somehow come to view.

Yes, our lives are like the waters,
That are sometimes all aglow;
And again are dull and heavy
When the clouds are hanging low.

Thus the scenes are ever changing
Till life's fountains all are dry,
When the spirit leaves the body
But to wing its way on high.

This the Christian's hope and comfort,
This which calms his troubled breast:
When life's voyage here is ended,
He will gain the haven's rest.

For THE NORMAL NEWS.

OUR POET AND PHILOSOPHER.

ROSE V. BARTON, '83.

Among the illustrious names already gracing the literature of our country, two stand forth pre-eminent. The one, a name whose utterance brings a warmer pulse to every heart that knows and loves his poems, a magic word, thrilling the mind with the memory of a well-worn volume always placed among our most-used books. For we know the words penned there will find accordance with any mood, whether it be one when only "strains of martial music" seem suited to our thoughts, or when there comes to us, at times,

> "The rushing of the sea-tides of the soul."

The other, a striking contrast to the first; his thoughts deepen the light of the eye and trace upon the student's brow the lines of earnest thought, as, with careful consideration, he cuts the precious gems of proverbs into mottoes for every day's guidance. The pictures are but poorly drawn if our Poet and Philosopher, Longfellow and Emerson, are not already recognized.

We live in the scenes the former depicts. How warmly the heart sympathizes with poor, bewildered, mortified John Alden, as impetuous little Miles Standish

> "Took, from the nail on the wall, his sword with its scabbard of iron,"

and strode from the room with the angry farewell:

> "Let there be nothing between us save war and implacable hatred."

As we read the poem we think not only of the faces and forms pictured there, of the joys and sorrows the poet has so vividly portrayed, but we see that poet, also, with his white hair, his kind smile, and friendly eyes. We know that he has written as he felt, that the gems of verse are the gems of thought. The touching measures of his *Rainy Day* could have been written only by one who had lived through its gloom and darkness, and yet felt that

> "Behind the clouds was the sun still shining."

And only a personal experience of the delights of Children's Hour could so charm us with its remembrances of

> "Grave Edith and laughing Allegra,
> And Alice with golden hair."

Great the power of one who can thus kindle in his readers' hearts the fire that burns in his own. Powerful, indeed, has been the influence felt through all the lands where his poems are read. The quiet strength, the kindliness of the heart which prompted his lines, permeates every verse; and as one reads he knows the life of Longfellow was such as maketh the heart glad. As the news of the death of the beloved poet swept through the land everyone who had known and cherished his poems felt the shock. It was as if a friend had been lost; as if one who had appealed to our sympathies many a time was no more. Such a life is not in vain. Carelessly were the seeds dropped from the sower's hand, half unnoticed did they sink into the reader's heart, but rich and golden is the harvest they are bearing now:—fond thoughts that love to linger over the words he wrote, kind deeds awakened by the thoughts he breathed. Such lives, indeed, are powerful; such hearts are rare.

Can we touch the life of him who lived and died his friend? Who wrote words that guide and elevate all who will heed. Words that, perhaps, have not cheered as many as felt the power of Longfellow's lines. But it is because Longfellow wrote that we might *feel*, and Emerson wrote that we might *think*. The jewels in his essays need deeper mining than is necessary to lay bare the gleaming golden grains of Longfellow's poems. So the careless eye runs down the page and never realizes the beauties of the words it sees.

How unfaltering the hand that never fails to point out a purer, stronger life. He simply records his own ceaseless efforts in the words which have already passed into a proverb,—"Make every day your best." When he talks to us of reading, in his essay *Books*, he unconsciously gives us material for a whole library, and artlessly discloses a mind whose treasures are gathered from the store-houses of every age. He is the critic, as well,—culling, from the criticism of others, hints to guide us in forming that library where not a single useless book may have a place. His words are strength to the weak. Listen! How vigor throbs through the words, "They can conquer who believe they can."

The philosopher has mastered, indeed, his science,—that of words. He knew and appreciated the force and value of the monosyllables and dissyllables he used with such discrimination; and we are astonished at the skill which forms a few weak words into a deathless proverb.

Thus have these two strengthened us by their lives. With dissimilar inclinations, but with sympathetic hearts, they clasped hands in a never-dying friendship; now, fit emblem of the unity of their lives and the intermingling of their thoughts, wherever a page of American literature is traced, there, side by side, are written the names of Longfellow and Emerson.

ATTENTION.

H. T. C., OLYMPIC SOCIETY.

A steamboat at sea with no navigator to direct and control its movements, is in a pitiable plight. In just such a condition is a mind which has not the power to govern its own actions. The steamer without the hand of the engineer at the throttle can make no progress; but let her engines be in the hands of a man who knows the purpose and strength of every part, who understands the significance of her every throb and beat, and she "walks the water like a thing of life." But motion alone avails nothing. Her motion must be controlled. Unless the helmsman has some definite port in view, and perslstently steers toward it, no haven will ever be reached. If he varies his direction according to his whim from day to day, he, never finding anchorage, will eventually go *down*.

So with the human mind. It will not progress unless it makes an effort so to do; but let it become thoroughly acquainted with its own capacities and capabilities, and the process of their development, then, if it makes use of its knowledge, its progress will be wonderful. However, like the steamer, it must not move aimlessly about, but should single out some particular line of development and follow it to the end. Although storms may arise and beat it far out of its course, it must still have sufficient courage to steer for its destination, not weakly and half reluctantly, but with a full head of steam. A mind which allows itself to be turned aside by imaginary dangers will sooner or later go *down*.

The power to direct one's thoughts along a chosen line is a faculty which cannot readily be acquired. To be able to concentrate the action of the mind upon one particular object or idea, to the exclusion of all others, is a most important power,—one whose value cannot be overestimated. How to keep our minds on what we are doing is one of the practical every-day problems of life. The minister's mind *will* wander from his sermon; the doctor's, from his patient; the lawyer's, from his brief; the author's, from his manuscript; the student's, from his book. Even those whose labor is principally physical are troubled in the same way. The ditcher who allows himself to dream day-dreams will frequently find his spade sticking idly in the earth. When he comes to test his day's work at night with the "rod-pole" the result is unsatisfactory, and he remarks, "Bedad! and I'll do more than that to-morrow if it takes me two days."

There is no habit so pernicious, when carried to excess, as that of allowing the thoughts to wander aimlessly about. A limited amount of day-dreaming may perhaps be allowable, but generally it would be better to follow the example of Cuffy, who sat on a fence a half a day, and during the whole of that time "didn't think

of nuthen." Although it might puzzle psychologists to determine just what his "mental state" was during that interval, they would all admit that it must have rested his mind; and it is argued that a certain amount of relaxation is necessary to the mind's proper activity. This is no doubt true, but the natural tendency is to take too much recreation, and this tendency should be carefully guarded against.

Day-dreaming and kindred harmful mental activity may be avoided by acquiring the habit of controlling our train of thought. But how can we acquire this habit? The theory of the matter is plain. The faculty of attention, like all the other faculties of the mind, is developed by use. A magnet whose load is increased day by day can be made to carry a much greater weight than it would originally have supported. So with the mind. If we fix our attention, as far as possible, upon the matter in hand, we will find our power to do so increasing, and, at length, our thoughts will be entirely in our power. This is the end to be attained, and as a means to this end we should do all in our power to direct and control our mental action.

THE BIBLE.

E. K., STUDENTS' CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

"The Book of Books" teaches us that there is a Being infinite in wisdom, who reigns over all, undivided and supreme. The fountain of all life, source of all light,—from whom all things flow and in whom all happiness centers.

The Bible is not only the revealer of the unknown God to man, but is his grand interpreter as the God of nature. In revealing Him it has given us the key that unlocks the profoundest mysteries of creation—the glass through which to look from nature up to nature's God. It is only when we stand and gaze upon nature, with the Bible in our hands, and its idea of God in our understanding, that nature is capable of kindling in our souls the highest emotions of beauty and sublimity. Without the allpervading spiritual God of the Bible in our thoughts, nature's sweetest music would loose its charm; the universe its highest significance and glory. Who can stand amid the beautiful scenes of this grand universe, with the Bible in his hand, and not feel, that if there is a moral sublimity to be found on earth, it is in the Bible, the thought of God. For what are all these outward visible forms of grandeur but the expression and the utterance of that conception of Deity, which the Bible has created in our minds and which has now become the leading and most important thought of all civilized nations. Not only is this Book precious to the poor and unlearned; not only is it the counselor and confidant of the great middle class of society, both spiritually and mentally, but the scholar and the sage, the intellectual monarchs of the race, bow to its authority. To multitudes of our race this book is not only the foundation of their religious faith, but their daily practical guide. It has taken hold of the world as no other book ever did. Not only is it read in all Christian pulpits, but it enters every habitation from the palace to the cottage; it is the golden chain which binds hearts together at the marriage altar; it contains the sacred formula for the baptismal rite; it blends itself with our daily conversation, and is the silver thread of all our best reading. When the mother parts with her dear boy, other volumes may be placed in his hands, but we are sure that with tearful prayers she will place among his apparel a Bible.

In the closet and in the street, amid temptations and trials, it is man's most useful attendant and his strongest shield. It is our lamp through the dark valley, and the medium of our best light from the solemn and unseen future. Stand before it as a mirror and you will see not only your good traits, but the errors, follies, and sins which you did not imagine were there.

If you desire to make constant improvement, go to the Bible. It not only shows the way to all progress but incites you to go forward. It opens before you a path leading up and still upward, along which good angels will cheer you and God himself will lend you a helping hand. Never a human being went to the Bible who did not find His words true: "But whosoever drinketh of the water I will give him, shall never thirst, for it shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life."

It is a book for the mind, the heart, the conscience, the will and the life. It is suitable for the palace and the cottage, the afflicted and the prosperous, the living and the dying; it is a comfort to the house of mourning and a check to the house of feasting; it is simple yet grand, mysterious yet plain; and though from God, it is

nevertheless within the eomprehension of a little child. You may send your children to school to study other books, from which they may be educated for this world; but in this divine Book they study the science of the eternal world, which prepares them to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

The family Bible has given to the Christian home all the blessings and enjoyments of life which raise it above the heathen home. Take this book from the family and what we now call home, will become a den of sullen selfishness and barbaric lust. How many precious promises we find in the Bible to encourage us in our work and on our way through life. With the presence and promises of God we can bear up under anything, and press on and never falter or fear. Look first and last to God to aid you in the great tasks before you. What scene can be more lovely on earth, more like the Heavenly home, and more pleasing to God than that of a pious family who daily read the Bible, and kneeling with one accord around the family altar, unite in their supplications to their father in Heaven.

Of all the boons which God has bestowed on His creatures, the Bible is the noblest and most precious. It is the record which tells us that this rebellious section of God's unlimited empire is not excluded from our Maker's compassions. We have only to think what a change there would be in our race, if the Bible were suddenly withdrawn and all remembrance of it swept away, to arrive at some faint notion of that wonderful volume. O, the gentle doctrine of Christ, doctrine of love and peace! As immortal beings let us prize it, for it guides to the New Jerusalem. As intellectual beings let us prize it, for it "giveth understanding to the simple."

MACKINAC ISLAND.

M. R., ADELPHIC SOCIETY.

We have had a historical reverence for the island of Mackinac ever since we read of it as being the starting point of fathers Marquette and Joliet, who, on May 17th, 1673, left this island for exploration in the Mississippi valley. It was called the "stronghold of the west" after Quebec fell into the hands of the British, and was a leading point with the American Fur Company. Long before this it was held in religious awe by the Red men, who thought their gods dwelt on the summits of its rocks; and they longed to live within its sight, that they might gain the favor of the Great Spirit.

To this Island, rich in the history of the past, and abounding in Indian legends, we directed our way for a summer's sojourn; at last, the object of our journey lies before us, and the white walls of the old fortress stand out in bold relief commanding the whole surrounding channel. One more turn of the wheels and our steamer is gliding into the crescent shaped bay, and we are at the "Gem of the Straits."

This wonderful isle is a mass of calcareous rock, rising from the bed of Lake Huron to an elevation of over three hundred feet above the water level, crowned at the top by a diadem of foliage; while the surrounding water is purity itself, small articles being seen at its greatest depths. It abounds in caves, arches, rocks and cliffs; some of the latter shoot out perpendicularly, while others tower aloft in pinnacles resembling the ruins of gothic steeples. Such a one is Chimney Rock, and near it is Lover's Leap, where the chief's daughter cast herself headlong at the death of her lover, an Indian brave. Near the spot where she fell is the "Devil's Kitchen," a cave whose front door is washed by the waves of the strait.

Next to the Fort, the greatest objects of interest to us were the Arched Rock and Sugar Loaf,—the former being an abutment with the arch thrown out from the main body of the cliff. Its summit is one hundred and fifty feet from the Lake; the spring of the arch is one hundred and ten feet, and the span about ninety. The arch is three feet wide and visitors often cross although the feat is trying to the nerves. We did not venture to cross but climbed out on the arch to pick a sprig from a stunted cedar, and carried it home as a trophy. From this point we went to see "Sugar Loaf," which is an isolated limestone rock of a conical shape, some eighty feet high, standing near the center of the island. To climb to its apex, is considered a feat of some difficulty. There is a cave in its side about one-third of its height from its base, large enough to accommodate half-a-dozen persons, the entrance to which is reached by a ladder.

We are now only a short distance from Fort Holmes, which was erected by the British during the time they held the island in the war of 1812. Its location was selected because it was near the

center of the island, and being 449 feet above the lake it commanded a wider range than Fort Mackinac. Only a small ridge now marks the spot. Our return route brought us next to Fort Mackinac. Its old white-washed walls and the block-houses, of Indian renown, still remain. The smooth, graveled walks, the cleanliness of the enclosure and the civility of the troops, make us linger within its portals, to catch the gentle breezes of the lake and watch the steamers pass to and fro.

It is Saturday night and we retire, with our minds filled with more than can be depicted of the loveliness of the Isle. Sunday was a day long to be remembered. The sun rose with more than usual brightness, casting its rays over the bay, while the white walls of the old fort reflected back the light with enchanting splendor. We enjoyed the Sabbath, and our hearts felt tuned to sing "Welcome sweet day of Rest." The warmth of the morning made us forget the chilly atmosphere of the previous evening. At ten A. M., in company with L. C. Miller of Howell, we wound our way to the newly erected Episcopal church, where a goodly number were collected for public worship. Their sincerity of expression and heart soon gained our confidence, and when they rose to sing "My faith looks up to Thee," we joined with a hearty will, feeling that here in this wild, rocky home the faith of the Christian remained unbroken, like the solid rock on which the Island stands. We noticed in the audience, Dr. Duffield of Lansing, who occupied the pulpit in the evening. At two P. M. the wind blew a stiff breeze from the lake and visitors hurried to their rooms; fires were built for our comfort, and overcoats did not come amiss although it was the 8th of August. Near evening it grew warmer, and the close of the day was nearly as warm as the dawn. At sunset the cannon from the fort announced the close of day. The shadows are fast falling, one by one the stars are peeping from the blue vault above; yet we linger in the darkness to see again the lights which glimmer from the old Fort and Bois Blanc Lighthouse, then retire for the night, never to forget the happy vacation at Mackinac.

Prof. Ragan, of New York, lectured in Normal Hall, January 11 and 12, for the benefit of the Christian Association. Owing to short notice and an idea that they were magic lantern shows, they did not net much money.

COMMUNICATION.

THE seniors have each had an attack of stage-oration, and have come out apparently well and hearty, and perhaps, somewhat the better for the toil and trouble of getting ready. Not satisfied with this, the Faculty have announced another outbreak, and the *subjects* must suffer. The seniors are not the *subjects*—Oh! no,—far from that. They will not suffer much from the second attaek; the Doctors—the Profs.—say that it is like all other diseases of childhood, the first attack is the worst, and all subsequent ones will be but light shocks to the nervous system. Neither did I mean by *subjects*, "Intemperanee" "U. S." "woman suffrage," Napoleon, or some great and good man. These can never suffer. They have become used to being discussed and essayed, and any speeches made by the '84, would not materially damage them. By *subjects* I mean the persons acted upon, in the medical sense. I might say in strict college language the "stiffs," but that is not just what I mean. The subjects are those 1st, 2nd, and 3rd year students who have been obliged to "suffer all this last term without any chance at a return fire." I mean also the 325 students and the teachers who have been obliged to listen each morning to the wise or otherwise sayings delivered each morning. It is this large body who are the *subjects* and are daily practiced upon for the benefit of the few who may be seniors. These persons each have spent ten hours or nearly two school days of valuable time listening for the benefit of these seniors. This ten hours each amounts to about 3250 hours in the aggregate or 650 school days. Now, if this had been one person who spoke every morning he would have used, of his own time about two school days, and of his listeners time, 650. This may be just a mere statement of facts, but to the writer it seems to justify the asking, if some other means cannot be employed, whereby the seniors may get their full share of oratorical privileges, and not make the others listen to them when there is so much to be done and so little time to do it in.

SUFFERER.

We were quite amused on reading this to find that the seniors were such petted and awful beings. Surely we hope the writer may not be seriously hurt. Perhaps he may get excused from listening to the next course of senior orations, or have a course of naps arranged for himself, so as to take one each morning during the orations. We hope there are not many who are so bad off or have become such a "sufferer."—[ED.

THE NORMAL NEWS

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EDITORS:

CHIEF—A. Jay Murray.

STAFF—E. J. Quackenbush, Crescent Society; Libbie Thayer Atheneum; H. T. Coe, Olympic; W. J. Champion, Adelphic.

BUSINESS MANAGER—W. J. Champion.

THE new year, at the Normal, opens with every prospect of being pleasant and profitable. With the exception of the confusion for a few days at its begining, caused by too many snowed-in students, the work of the school begins under the best of conditions. Looking over the students as they file into chapel, we see but few looking tired and over-worked. All seem to be doing not too much, but rather duties well arranged and not too heavy to carry. Once in a while, we see a person who, having studied during the resting time of the others, now finds little time to rest in keeping up with the others. Again, a few still persist in doing more than their health will allow, and are striving and pushing to keep up with their classes in school, and their music or painting outside of school.

There is another set who, having rested and enjoyed themselves during the vacation, and being influenced by the gaiety of the season, are slow to give up the entertainments that should be very carefully participated in, lest pleasure interterfere with school work. We believe in having as good a time as anyone; but we also feel that a social time should not be allowed the precedence in one's school days. It is good to be social, it is better to be educated and social; but it is best to learn how to educate one's self so that social pleasure may not harm intellectual growth, nor intellectual growth, social pleasure. Nothing can be pleasanter than the company of an educated man or woman who is sociable and has a good word for everyone. We hear much of how to educate a person, and how to best gain physical and intellectual growth. Let us hear something of how to cducate a person socially as well as physically, intellectually, and morally. There is as much of a lesson to learn, for many, in how to appear in society and how to best go into the homes of our pupils for the purpose of acquaintance, as in how to gain brain or muscle. Some may say we have already too much to learn in the school course, or that we will get such instruction intuitively. But that is what we do not want: there is too much intuitive instruction manifested every day. Give us a school social where all may come together and meet the teachers of the school as well as the students. The societies help this difficulty some, but there is little of such training as we will need in after life; little time is given for general acquaintance, and in the classes, we meet but few of the many here at school. We ask for a revival of the school social, that we may learn not only who we are and where we came from, but that we may acquire the manners of the drawing-room and a knowledge of the conventionalities of society.

FRIDAY evenings have been recognized by the Faculty and students as the time when those who desire might benefit themselves by the means afforded in the various societies constituting the Normal Lyceum. We say *have been*, referring to past times and not to the past term. "Early in every year the question of adjourning for some show, lecture or concert will come up." We heard this more than a year ago, but little did we realize the true meaning of the remark. At the close of the term there comes to every person who has seen the working of a Normal society, a feeling that the above statemnet has been fulfilled during the past term. The societies have adjourned too much already, and the tendency is in the wrong direction. It should be a duty for every person who has any interest in a society,—and every member by joining should have such an intetest,—to guard well his rights and privileges and be so jealous of these rights that there will be a feeling throughout the school, that any other entertainment that asks for or announces anything for a Friday night, does it at the risk of non-support of the societies,—and it should be a risk. We wish to call attention to this because we believe the tendency now is to make the societies subservient to any entertainment whether intellectual or financial. This indifferent feeling, we are bound to believe, comes about from several reasons. It is the result, we think, of lack of earnestness; a too shallow opinion of what the privileges of the societies are. There are many who, while they retain a place in the societies, are simply a drawback to the society so afflicted; and the sooner they wake

to duty as members, or withdraw for the benefit of those who may wish to join, the better for themselves and the societies. In remaining and occupying valuable room, they fail to realize their true value, and by their indifference, disgust the true society workers. Anything but indifference. Antagonism is productive of hard work; but this oh-let-some-one-else-do-my-part feeling is too weak to be tolerated. Persons aware that they have this feeling and that they have no interest, are of more benefit to any organization outside, than when occupying good room. Let us see more good earnest work, or more resignations.

WITH this issue we say good-bye to the present society members. They have assisted us in every way possible and have carried out the plan inaugurated this year of having a definite space for literary work furnished by the societies. All agreed that literary articles would not only help those writing and the NEWS, but would represent the societies as well as anything that could be devised. The articles furnished by the editors have been, with a few exceptions, written expressly for this paper, and never published or read to any audience before appearing in these columns. We thank each one for the assistance, and feel that if the paper has had any excellence it has been due largely to the society articles and the efforts of the editors elected for the societies.

The relations between the members of the staff, the Business Manager and ourselves have been uniformly pleasant. Hoping that the next corps of editors may be as efficient and agreeable, we await the result of the elections.

THIS is the first chance that the NEWS has had to say a word about leap-year. Every paper has of course something to say about it; some have encouraged while others seem to discourage its observance. In the Normal there seems to be a decided effort to promote the old customs and privileges given the ladies. It is not deemed wrong by the Normal students but altogether right for the lady to ask the gentleman's company to the societies or churches—for these are the two places where you may see the students in couples. There have been a few pleasan occasions managed on this plan and their suc cess warrants the continuance of the custom. Here it is hoped lies a remedy for the non-social, non-lecture going feeling that has been spoken of in previous years, and from this custom we expect great results to follow.

MARRIED—December 31, Lawrence McLouth, '82, son of Dr. McLouth, and Miss Mattie Robinson, '82, at the bride's home in Muir.

Since his graduation, Lawrence has attended the University, and been Principal at Cassopolis and Mt. Pleasant. Miss Robinson taught school during '82 and '83 at Dowagiac and had commenced the present year at Northville, but resigned for the above named event. The happy pair will reside at Mt. Pleasant, where Lawrence has a fine school at a salary of $1,000.

All the Normalites remember them with pleasure. The acquaintance begun here grew into a friendship, and the rest followed as a natural—or Normal--consequence. The NEWS wishes them every success, and hopes they may enjoy the full happiness anticipated.

MARRIED—December 26, Elbert VanAuken and Grace Laible, at the home of the bride in Ypsilanti.

"Van." was from New York, and came to Ypsilanti in '81 at the time of the exodus from the Cortland Normal School. After attending here for two years he embarked in the book trade as general agent. He has spent nearly two years in this and other ventures, during which his genial smile has occasionally been noticed in Ypsilanti. The question as to his desiring "The Roses of Grace or the Graces of Rose," once asked by the NEWS, has been answered. Miss Laible was well and favorably known at the Normal, and would have graduated in '84, had she completed her studies. She was a prominent member of the choir and took an active interest in its welfare.

The Normal was represented at the State Teacher's Association by the following: Faculty—Profs. Willits, George and Putnam; Graduates—H. C. Rankin, G. A. Osinga, Eugene Miller, S. G. Burkhead, J. F. Swan, D. A. Hammond, Esther Boynton, Martin Hanlon, May Castle, George Barnes, D. Howell, D. Haskins, Carrie Heaton, Anna Sherman, W. W. Hoadley, L. J. Mecham, Tena Noyes, C. D. McLouth, J. Sinclair, Wm. H. Hearn, Ida Ewer, Maggie Barr; Students,—C. E. Blodgett, Sallie Barker, Lucy Cullyford, Mary Kilbourne, Ernest Dryer, Webster Dock, Ida Howe, James Champion, and Jay Murray.

SELF-CONTROL.

E. J. Q., CRESCENT SOCIETY.

"The government of one's self is the only true freedom for the individual."

Few of the many virtues which form the basis of a good character are of so great importance as self-control: it is the chief of all virtues. It is this which distinguishes man from animal, and also the moral from the physical life. Let man be controlled by his desires and appetites, and he will soon sink to the level of the brute and lose all moral freedom; but, on the other hand, let them be controlled by him and he will rise intellectually, and grow morally strong.

We are not so formed that we are satisfied with securing what is necessary for our own welfare and usefulness. Our desires grow and develop by indulgence. Day and night we are musing, as to "What we shall eat or wherewithall shall we be clothed." In this respect man differs from the brutes, for there seems to be a natural limit to their desires and passions; but man's passions urged on by his imagination soon gain complete control over soul, mind, and body; and all love of truth, virtue and morality ceases.

It has been said that nine-tenths of all the vicious desires which degrade society, and which when indulged swell into the crimes that disgrace it, would sink into insignificance before self-discipline and self-control.

The moral condition of society depends upon the character of each individual comprising that society, and each individual's character upon the habits of that individual; these habits, according as the will is directed rightly or wrongly, may govern or be governed.

Such being the case, the question naturally arises, can our habits be controlled and governed? We have the testimony of some of the best writers that they can be; or as one says, "They are as teachable as Greek and Latin and much more essential to happiness, and furthermore, the one who best controls them stands highest in morality." We see then that in any society, in order that it may rank high either intellectually or morrally, the self-governed must predominate. Such being the case, we who are preparing to become teachers should carefully consider this question: How can we teach those who are to become our pupils to govern themselves, thus, benefiting the individual, the school, and the society of which each pupil forms a part? But how can one teach another the way, unless he himself knows it? Before he can manage or control others, he must manage or control himself. Goethe says, "That no one but he who can master himself is worthy to rule, and only he can rule."

There are just two kinds of government, viz: that from within and that from without; that is to say, those in society who do not govern themselves must be governed. There must be a governing power somewhere, and to whom belongs the right of ruling, if not to the one who best rules himself! For one must have all his powers under command, if others are to have full benefit from his guidance.

This subject then should become one of vast importance to the teacher. A subject which forms the basis of a moral character in the individual,—and thus of society,—and still further, is one of the principal elements of success, should at least receive something more than a passing thought. It is one of the reins by which the teacher guides his school. Let it break, or become loosened in the least, and the school will soon become unmanageable.

There are two things in which the teacher should be especially well disciplined; and, unless one thinks he can control himself in these, he would better give up all hopes of ever being a successful teacher. The first of these, seems to be *control of temper*. Probably in no occupation of life is there more to try the temper, than in that of teaching. Little, petty affairs trouble and exasperate more than large ones. A dull pupil, a mischievous boy or girl, morose dispositions, etc., are the many things with which, a teacher has to contend. It is said of Dr. Arnold, that he once spoke angrily to a dull pupil; when the boy looked up and said, "Why do you speak harshly sir? Indeed I am doing the best I can." Years after he used to relate the story to his children, saying, "I never felt so ashamed in my life. That look and speech I have never forgotten."

The second essential is *self possession*.—The greatest general remains cool amid the surrounding dangers; the statesman is not excited by partyisms, Still more the teacher needs to be calm amid all storms; in fact, his power to quell a tumult lies in his coolness.

In many respects the school is a mirror in which the very words and deeds of the teacher

seem to be magnified a hunderd times. A noisy teacher may expect a noisy school, a cheerful teacher will see himself reflected. But while governing himself he should not forget to teach those around him self-government. Its importance can not be doubted. If a person mounts a high spirited horse, it is important that he should be able to control it or he may be dashed in pieces. An engineer must be able to control his locomotive, otherwise his own life and the lives of others may be sacrificed. It is still more indispensable that an individual who is entrusted with the care of himself should be able to govern himself. Goethe says, "That is the best government which teaches us to govern ourselves. Let this, then, be the motto of every seacher: First, control self; second, teach others to do the same.

WOMAN'S RIGHT TO LABOR.

L. C. T., ATHENEUM SOCIETY.

Within the past century, through the influence no doubt of the advancing civilization of our own country and the nations of Europe, woman has risen nearer than ever before to the position she is destined to occupy in the active arena of life.

It is not enough that her beauty and virtue have been sung by generations of poets, or that centuries ago bold knights and gallant warriors laid down their lives for her. Only recently has she been freely recognized in the sphere for which nature intended her, that of an industrial agent in the human family! She is now not only an ennobling and purifying presence, but a factor in the world of industry, without whose co-operation there is no prosperity and no safety. What is especially wanted in every community is the natural untrammelled energy of every adult member, irrespective of sex; and that is the best governed country which best protects each and all in the free use of their powers and gains. There can be no real thrift, individual or national, where the utility or the rewards of woman's labor are undervalued or lost sight of. If left to the natural laws of demand and supply, women as well as men, soon fall into their true sphere of duty, doing those things they can do best. For the question is not what this or that person can or cannot do: the true inquiry is, who can do it best?

The question is not whether women have not sat on the throne or held sway in one place or another; but wherever and whenever they have been called to do a certain duty, whether they have or have not generally excelled in doing it. And if such is found to be the case, is not the utility of the labor as perceptible, and the justice of a demand for a fair remuneration as evident, as though a man had performed the work?

It is not our purpose to set up for the female sex any extravagant standard of legal privilege, or to support in her behalf quixotic pretentions to political or municipal rights adverse to those of the other sex. The constitution of nature, ordained by no human convention, recorded in no fundamental charter of government or petition of rights, but written over the face of the nniverse and stamped upon the very organization of our race, has, we believe, marked out for each the sphere in which they are to labor and for which they are best fitted.

The part an individual can perform best in the duties of life, that part he is bound to perform, whatever it may be.

If then, talent and fitness are good titles to power, certainly the proudest male of the line of Tudors, or Plantagenets before them, did not possess a right to rule more divine or more clear and legitimate character by nature, than Elizabeth of England. And it is an admitted fact, that in a great majority of instances, when exalted to the highest stations, woman has proved equal to every emergency.

In some of the industries and professions lately thrown open to her, she is acknowledged to excel. But her reward for labor equal in amount and quality with that of man's, falls far below his; and here she fails to receive her due.

Recognizing the fact that in the welcome she now enjoys to the various professions and pursuits of life, there is thrown open to her a broad and most promising field for activity, she only demands—as an act of justice and courtesy—an acknowledgment of the worth of her labor, and a fair remuneration. Shall she not be heard?

The choir made the janitor a present of $7 for his kindness in heating and lighting the chapel for the concert. He deserved all that and more. The money was secured by a hat-collection and was not intended as pay, but a sort of Christmas present.

For THE NORMAL NEWS.

AN ENJOYABLE OCCASION.

A very intelligent and attentive audience, nearly filling Representative Hall, assembled at the State Capitol Wednesday evening, Dec. 26, 1883, to hear the address with which Prof. Estabrook opened the thirty-third annual meeting of the Mich. State Teachers 'Association. The address was on "The effects of Alcohol upon the Human System," and was a concise, pointed and very powerful *expose* of the viciousness of this poison.

Thursday morning saw something over two hundred of Michigan's pedagogues in order for the exercises of the day, which were opened by a paper from Prof. Rankin, of Buchanan, upon "Courses of study for the Smaller High Schools." He hinted at the folly of pursuing unnecessary and fancy studies so strongly, that during the discussion which followed certain would-be reformers saw fit to assail the study of the classics; and they seemed to your correspondent to be very fortunate in their argument. But the next paper, "Educating power of the Classics," by by Prof. Gould, of Olivet, went far towards upsetting their arguments. Especially good was Prof. Perry's speech in the discussion of this paper. In answer to the charge that the study of the classics, although strengthening memory, attention and patience, yet does not strengthen the reasoning powers, he said: "The hunting after truth in translating Latin or Greek comes nearest original thinking of anything which we study."

The attendance upon the afternoon session was slightly less. A short lecture upon "True Education" by Prof. A. E. Haynes, of Hillsdale College, was listened to with great attention. It set forth in glowing colors the dignity and manliness which education affords, and showed the close connection between intellectual and moral development.

Prof. Leartus Connor, M. D., of Detroit, then gave an excellent lecture upon the care of the eyes of school children. He opposed the low windows of our schools and the sending of children to school before eight years of age. It was a forcible and sensible paper and received hearty applause. In the course of the discussion which followed, the Dr. advocated the placing of children in Kindergartens until eight years of age which idea seemed to highly please a large majority of the Association.

A discussion of "English versus Classics" was then taken up and if any result was reached it was a doubtful one.

The evening session was made enjoyable by some fine music and an address by Hon. Edwin Willits, Principal of the Normal, subject, "Individuality of the Teacher." The general verdict was that a more pleasing or effective effort had seldom, if ever, been made before the Association.

Mrs. Edna Chaffee Noble, of Detroit, then entertained the audience with two readings which she rendered in an inimitable manner.

Friday morning a number of interesting papers were read. Chief among them were Prof. Plowman's report of committee on County Institute work, and Prof. Putnam's paper on "Grading of District Schools."

The afternoon was consumed by reports of committees and election of officers, after which the Association adjourned.

These meetings are productive of much good, enhancing the interest of teachers and increasing sociability among them. The worst fault that can be found with them is that too many teachers stay away. W. J. CHAMPION.

OUR EXCHANGES.

It is not with a feeling of self-importance that THE NEWS prints the following opinions regarding itself, but our readers should know how we are appreciated away from home; and our writers and all who have kindly assisted should know what they write for, and how their productions have been criticized. THE NEWS has not found it best to keep a regular exchange column, but has endeavored to make a paper for the general reader, and in that way to interest the exchange editors. We thank our exchanges for their kind notices and helpful criticisms, a few of which we subjoin:

The Phi-Ronian:—

In regard to *The Normal News*, published at Ypsilanti, we think it contains some of the best literary matter contained in any of our exchanges.

University Courier, Lawrence, Kan.:—

The Normal News comes to our table a welcome friend. It is of especial interest to our Normal editor, who immediately seizes and bears it away to the seclusion of his own sanctum.

Hamilton College Monthly, Lexington, Ky.:—

We are glad to bid welcome *The Normal News*, one of our new friends. Its literary department is well arranged, and we are glad to note that it does not take up so much of its space with home affairs. True, a college paper should be devoted to college matter, but the interest of the exchange table should be considered as well.

The Normal News, Cortland, N. Y.:—

The Ypsilanti Normal News is fully up to its former standard of excellence. The paper is always gladly received and valued for the readable matter contained in its pages.

The Crescent, New Haven, Conn.:—

The Normal News, from Ypsilanti, Michigan, is one of our more advanced and solid exchanges. There is an excellent article on "Proper Methods of Reasoning," which among other things says: "Young men and women are carried and dragged through a course of study, and are then expected to go out into the world and succeed. The completion of the course is the object for which they strive, and, in hurrying on, they fail to get the intellectual vigor that is expected. They form in many cases a superficial method of dealing with mental problems, and so when they attempt to base something in life on these shallow reasons, they make a conspicuous failure."

Normal Monitor, Winchester, Tenn.:—

We heartily welcome *The Normal News*, of Ypsilanti, Mich. If we were to judge of the school by the paper—and we always do—we would think that a live, earnest and working school was at the back of *The News*. We like its articles in general, but were pleased especially with "Shall the Average Woman Read the Average Novel."

King's College Record, Windsor, Nova Scotia :—

We welcome, too, *The Normal News*. It is a pleasure, not often experienced, to turn over the pages of a contemporary from over the border and find them almost entirely free from the absurd "locals" which fill whole pages of some college periodicals.

Philomathean Review, Brooklyn, N. Y.:—

The literary excellence of *The Normal News*, of Ypsilanti, Mich., is deserving of mention.

Have you heard the news? New term, new studies, new editors, new officers in societies, and new study hours.

ALUMNI ITEMS.

Jessie Southie, '83, visited the Normal Jan. 3.

Wm. H. Hearn, '83, principal at Dansville, called Jan. 3.

Lillie Hunt, '83, spent her vacation in visiting friends and the schools of Ypsilanti.

James Hanford, '83, principal at Imlay city, visited Ypsilanti friends Dec. 28 to 30.

Emma Fuller, '83, preceptress at Cassopolis, visited home and the Normal during the holiday vacation.

Mary Gitchell, '83, teacher in Intermediate Department Napoleon, spent New Year's at home and called Jan. 3, at the Normal.

Hiram Miller, '82, resigned his position at Napoleon and went to South Lyons.

Walter Hewitt and wife, '82, of Cassopolis visited Ypsilanti during the holidays. While here "Walt." gave the temperance society a stirring address in Light Guard Hall.

Ida Spoor, '81, has left school and now teaches at Spring Lake.

Y. C. Williams, '81, has taken the school at Napoleon vacated by Mr. Miller, '82.

J. F. Seaman, C. S., '80, has resigned his position at South Lyons and gone to White Pigeon.

Geo. B. Hodge, '79, calls occasionally at the Normal.

John A. Bobb, '79, has resigned his position at Dexter to become an M. D. at the University.

D. A. Hammond, '75, and wife visited friends in Ypsilanti during the vacation. The Tecumseh schools are flourishing.

Lu. D. Rutherford is not keeping *books*, as reported in the last NEWS; she is keeping *house*, and living at Hinsdale, Ill. She has been Mrs. Howe for nearly a year.

Besides the graduates mentioned, the following were noticed during vacation, about the Normal and Ypsilanti: Hiram Miller, Lillian Crawford, Cora Rogers, Josie Pool, Jennie Martin, Lizzie Pattison, Anna Wood, Cassius Hollenbeck, Ella Hays and Ida Shotwell.

Prof. Bellows has been Grand Master of the Masonic order in the State of Michigan for the year expiring January 22. He now becomes Past Grand.

PERSONALS.

L. McMahon, of the University called Jan. 7.

Prof. Pease began his twenty-first year as teacher of music in the Normal, Jan. 3.

Max Pease has returned to School. He was in the lumber business during the summer.

Misses Ellis and Harvey were obliged to give up school after the Holidays on account of ill-health.

Messrs. Hall and Weeks cleared expenses and pocketed lots of experience by means of their professional tour.

We wanted to tell awful bad what VanAuken's important business was, that we spoke of last month. By referring to another column it will be discovered.

Henry T. Coe of the NEWS was, on account of sickness, obliged to leave school and go home Monday morning Jan. 14. He expects to be back for the public.

Occasionally we notice some of the city fathers visiting the School: J. Willard Babbitt, Dec. 20, Clark S. Wortley, C. King, Jan. 7. Come again, we like to see interest shown in the School.

Miss Coleman, on account of her mothers serious illness, did not return until Jan. 5, and the Primary room did not open till the 7th ;—just as well, as the little folks couldn't wade through the drifts.

Miss King was called away from her school work, by the death of her sister, and was not able to return to her duties until Jan. 8. During her absence Miss Barton took the position of acting preceptress.

LOCALS.

Prepare to suffer—examinations almost here.

We are obliged to omit our exchange list this month.

Miss Goffe's room failed to draw during the zero days,—see ?

Last weeks of the first term are coming fast ; examinations too.

The janitor's horse-lawn-mower ought to be turned into a snow-plow.

The colored "Sons of Liberty" are becoming very obnoxious to the students.

New students still keep coming. Since vacation fifteen new faces have made their appearance.

The Ypsilantian published sisty-six thousand copies of its monthly edition for January.

Friday evening Jan. 25, the Conservatory of Music will give an entertainment at the Opera House.

Prof. George's class in Geography numbers 160 ; it meets in the gentleman's study-hall from 3 to 4 P. M.

The next public will be held Friday evening, Feb. 1. It is expected to be a novel and an interesting entertainment.

The steam was kept on the boil, day and night, during the cold weather, and, even then, one of the pipes froze up in Prof. Vroman's room.

Lots of snowed-in pupils retured Monday after the vacation. The snow must have been awful deep in some places on the line of the M. C. R. R.

The museum was arranged during the vacation. It is only a question of a little time as to its becoming one of the best, for school uses, in the state.

Prof. McLouth received some new lightning material during vacation and gave his Higher Physics class some very interesting and pleasing experiments as a sort of wind-up to the book-work.

The Musical Union agreed to repeat its last concert for the benefit of the Baptist church ; but the church decided not to have it after it had considered the expense and the provision of the choir that they should receive $13—enough to make up the loss on the first concert.

Senior social Satnrday evening, Jan. 5. The second story of the conservatory was used for the first time—good place. Of course, the seniors had a good time. It was their first meeting for a regular good time and the participants did credit to themselves and the class—especially those who played tag.

Lovers of the excellent in theatrical performances will do well to attend the Ypsilanti Opera House for any or all the following engagements : Richard Foote, in "Rich. III," Jan. 23rd ; Ada Gray, in "East Lynne," Jan. 20; Wilber Opera Co., Saturday, Feb. 2 ; M. B. Curtis, in Sam'l O' Posen, Monday Feb. 4th; C. R. Gardner's "Only a Woman's Heart," Feb. 15th.

About thirty students took in a sleigh-ride and Matthew Arnold's lecture at Ann Arbor, Friday evening, January 18.

The News Directory.

NORMAL SOCIETIES.

(Meet each Friday evening at 7:30 o'clock.)

OLYMPIC.—Officers: Pres., Adam Mackie; Rec. Sec, Lucie Cullyford.

ATHENEUM—Officers: Pres., W. C. Hull; Rec. Sec., Mamie L. Kilbourne.

ADELPHIC—Officers: Pres., A. Jay Murray; Rec. Sec., Genie Glover.

CRESCENT—Officers: Pres., W G Steward; Rec. Sec., Carrie Hewitt.

NORMAL LYCEUM, composed of the above named Societies in joint session. The public exercises are held under this name. Executive Committee—A. S. Tedman, C. O. Townsend, Geo. A. Rowe, W. J. Champion.

CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION—Officers; Pres., C. E. Blodgett. Meets in No. 2, Sundays, at 3 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening at 6:30. Business meetings, subject to call.

RAILROADS.

MICHIGAN CENTRAL.

Trains arrive from the West: 5:12, 7:18, 8:38, 10:43, a. m., 4:50, 5:18, 11:34, p. m.

Trains arrive from the East: 8:18, 10:40, a. m., 5:00, 7:00, 9:03, 11:03, p. m.

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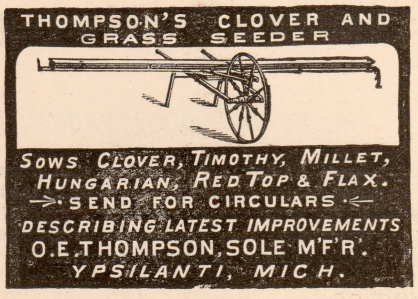
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George Howland, Supt. Public Schools, Chicago.
D. S. Gregory, D. D., LL. D., Lake Forest, Ill.
D. W. Phillips, Pres. McKendree College, Lebanon, Ill.
Grace P. Jones, Principal Bordulac Seminary, Oconomowoc, Wis.
Mrs. M. E. Hoffman, River Forest Home School, River Forest, Ill.
Prof. Wm. F. Phelps, Winona, Minn.
Prof. Samuel Dickie, Albion, Mich.
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Ypsilanti, Mich., September 20th, 1883.

To the Students of the State Normal School:

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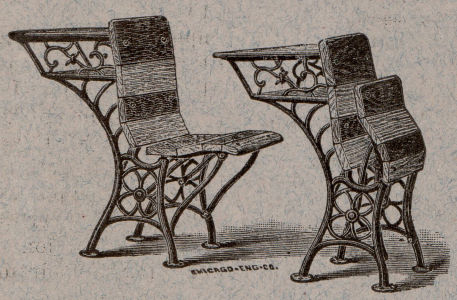

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Admission and Advanced Standing.

Applicants for admission will be examined in Reading, Spelling, Grammar, Geography and Arithmetic, so far as to ascertain their fitness to enter upon a course of study in the Normal School.

Persons who have passed the entrance examinations will be admitted to any advanced class by passing the necessary examinations, or, without examination, on presenting certificates of standing from the Superintendent or Principal of a High School, Graded School, or other institution of learning approved by the Faculty. Such certificate must state definitely the amount and kind of work covered by the standings given. Blank forms for these certificates will be furnished on application.

Certificates of standing will not be accepted in those branches required by law for the lowest grade legal license, namely: Orthography, Reading, Writing, Geography, Grammar, Arithmetic, U. S. History, and Civil Government. The arrangements of the Normal School are such that special instruction will be given each term in these branches

Courses of Study.

Pupils entering the school are offered the choice of five regular courses of study, as follows: Scientific, four years; Literary, four years; Ancient languages, four years; Modern languages, four years; English, three years. A special course with Music, and several special courses made up of optional selections from the regular courses are also offered.

Graduation.

Pupils graduating from any course are entitled to legal life certificates of qualification to teach in any of the public schools of the State not under special law.

Appointments and Tuition.

The school year is divided into two terms of twenty weeks each. Every student not holding an appointment from a member of the State Legislature is required to pay five dollars in advance as a tuition fee for each term.

Each member of the Legislature is authorized by the Board of Education to appoint two students from his district, who, on the presentation of a certificate of appointment, will be received free of charge. The certificate must be presented at the time of admission, or the regular fee will be required. Each appointment is good for one year only.

Board and Expenses.

Students can board only at such places and under such regulations as are approved by the Faculty. Gentlemen and ladies, of different families, cannot occupy rooms in the same house. Board and furnished rooms can be obtained in private families at rates varying from $3.00 to $4.00 per week. Many, by "clubbing," reduce the expenses of board to $2 00 or $2.25 per week. Others board themselves, and thereby bring their expenses within $2.00 per week.